

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/727,050

Examiner

Dave A. Ghatt

Applicant(s)

HAN, CHUN-KU

Art Unit

2854

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/04/03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 9/16/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Information Disclosure Statement**

1. The "Notice to Submit Response" as listed on the IDS submitted on September 16 2004, is not considered prior art. Consequently, the "Notice to Submit Response" was crossed-out of the IDS, and was NOT initialed. However, the applicant should note that the examiner did review the pertinent information in the "Notice to Submit Response".

### **Examiner's Amendment**

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Deidre Davis on September 29, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1 line 3, the recitation " ( " was deleted and replaced with -- , -- (comma).

In claim 1 line 4, the recitation " ) " was deleted and replaced with -- , -- (comma).

In claim 4 line 1, the recitation " ( " was deleted and replaced with -- , -- (comma).

In claim 4 line 2, the recitation " ) " was deleted and replaced with -- , -- (comma).

In claim 8 line 2, the recitation " ( " was deleted and replaced with -- , -- (comma).

In claim 8 line 2, the recitation " ) " was deleted and replaced with -- , -- (comma).

These changes were made to properly include the language within the parentheses .

### **Reasons For Allowance**

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 1 was allowed because the prior art of record does not teach or render obvious the total combination claimed, including a paper cassette identification unit which generates a synchronizing signal in response to an identification symbol which is transmitted from one of the first through N-th paper cassettes, and transmits the generated synchronizing signal to the paper cassettes in which an undefined symbol that indicates that an identification signal has not been assigned, among the first through N-th paper cassettes is given.

The prior art reference to Murata (JP 05-069988) teaches the N-1 input/output arrangement as well as the serial bus arrangement as claimed. However, Murata does not teach nor render obvious an arrangement having a paper cassette identification unit which generates a synchronizing signal in response to an identification symbol, and in which an undefined symbol that indicates that an identification signal has not been assigned, among the first through N-th paper cassettes is given.

The prior art reference to Ogawa (JP 10-316253 A) teaches a serial bus arrangement as claimed. However, Ogawa does not teach nor render obvious an arrangement having a paper cassette identification unit which generates a synchronizing signal in response to an identification symbol, and in which an undefined symbol that indicates that an identification signal has not been assigned, among the first through N-th paper cassettes is given.

Claim 8 was allowed because the prior art of record does not teach or render obvious the total method claimed, including the step wherein upon determining that the first signal is provided to one of the first through N-th paper cassettes, assigning an identification symbol

Art Unit: 2854

which indicates the one of the first through N-th paper cassettes to which the first signal is provided, and transmitting the identification symbol to a paper cassette identification unit which identifies the first through N-th paper cassettes, and converting the second signal outputted from an output port of one of the paper cassettes in which the identification symbol is assigned, into a first signal.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### **Conclusion**

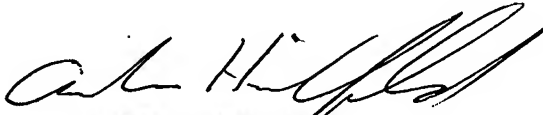
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dave A. Ghatt whose telephone number is (571) 272-2165. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays through Friday 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew H. Hirshfeld can be reached on (571) 272-2168. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2854

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DAG



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